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EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Buenos Aires, Argentina

5/23/79

2. POL

MEMORANDUM

TO : The Ambassador
THRU : POLCOUNS - William H. Hallman
FROM : POL - Yvonne Thayer
SUBJECT: Reported Death of Disappeared Persons

May 20, 1979

SEE

Comments

Intelligence sources informed RSO Jim Blystone that four persons on the Embassy's disappearance list have been killed. The four are Roberto Cristina, Abraham Hochman, Ruben Kriscautzky and Eduardo Raul Contreras, all abducted in mid-August 1978 and reportedly members of the PCML ex-Vanguardia Comunista, a China-line communist organization.

Three of the four are US interest cases: Roberto Cristina, sociologist (Embassy file No. 646/78/12); interest expressed by WOLA, Cancer Congress; negative reply to Embassy FOWG inquiry.

Abraham Hochman, lawyer (No. 605/78/9); negative reply to Embassy FOWG inquiry; interest expressed by Rep. Giaimo (Connecticut), Rabbi Rosenthal, Anti-Defamation League, Cancer Congress, New York Bar Association, Australian Embassy, Permanent Assembly for Human Rights.

Ruben Kriscautzky, dentist (No. 925/79/4); no reply yet to Embassy FOWG inquiry; interest expressed by family members, Permanent Assembly for Human Rights.

Raul Contreras figures on the lists of both the Permanent Assembly and Families of Detained and Disappeared Persons.

We have coded this report to the four names on our list for internal confidential information, but believe no more action is appropriate until the reports can be confirmed by more authoritative and accountable sources.

cc: SY - Mr. Blystone
POL/R - Mr. DiStefano
DCM - Mr. Chaplin

DCM Comment: I did not hear RSC's report, but am sure that we should use the greatest caution before we credit this report. It sounded to me as if RSC's sources were saying that if these people were members of the PCML they were sure dead, not that they knew that these individuals had definitely been killed. Suggest RSC be closely questioned on his return from MVD.

Clearance: SY:JBlystone
POL:YThayer:sz

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U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s):
Declassify: () In Part () In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date Declassify on Reason